

### Abstract of the Invention

A portable device for the live scanning of fingerprint, facial and crime scene images and the wireless transmission of said images to a central host system for identity verification. The portable device has the ability to allow the user to operate  
5 the device with a single hand. It can scan and record live fingerprint slap or roll images (via optical, solid state, or video sensors). It also includes a baffle that assists with the mechanical alignment of the fingerprints on the fingerprint sensor receiving surface and prevents bright light sources from interfering with fingerprint scans. The portable device also can scan, display, and record latent fingerprint  
10 images. It also has other data receiving and transmission functions, such as displaying and recording facial and incident scene images in conditions ranging from well lit to total darkness, recording and playing back incident scene audio information for incident description and contacting voice recordings for identification. The portable apparatus can also scan, record, and interpret magnetic  
15 stripe, smart card, or bar code information from standard and non-standard cards. It also obtains, displays, and records geographical position for incident description, mapping, and directional instruction to the user. It further provides an emergency transmission for assistance and provides a short-range wireless link to a mobile unit or a *direct wireless* link to the central site. It also provides for entry by the user of  
20 text data for demographics or operator use through either keyboard or voice activation.